

PRESS info

N00046EN / Bo Östlund 25 August 2000

Breakthrough for Scania city buses in Italy

Scania has signed its first orders for delivery of its own fully-built city buses to Italy. The initial order is for 44 Scania OmniCity low-floor buses, and the first bus in this batch was recently delivered to Azienda Trasporti Bergamo, ATB.

During the autumn, another 30 or so buses will be delivered. Seven of them will go to the first customer ATB just east of Milan.

"This order represents a very important breakthrough into what is a new segment for Scania in Europe's fourth-largest bus market," comments Håkan Ericsson, Senior Vice President and head of Scania's bus operations. "Scania's increased focus on the Italian bus market is now beginning to bear fruit – we have so far doubled our bus sales in Italy this year.

"Scania's buses are a familiar sight in Italy, but so far only as tourist coaches and buses for intercity traffic, totalling about 900 buses over the years. This order, however, marks the first time an Italian customer has purchased our entire city bus concept, complete with our own body," continues Håkan Ericsson.

In parallel with the city bus order from Italy, Scania recently signed an agreement with Combus of Denmark whereby Scania will serve as the company's main bus supplier for regional operations over the coming two years. The agreement covers 2001 and 2002, and encompasses a total of 39 buses. Ten of the new buses will be Scania's OmniLink – the same low-entrance concept as the OmniCity but modified for suburban operation, while the remaining 29 are Scania OmniLines, Scania's most recent intercity bus.

Combus is already a major Scania customer. Scania delivered 31 intercity buses to the company during the current year.

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Scania is one of the world's leading manufacturers of trucks and buses for heavy transport applications, and of industrial and marine engines. With 25,800 employees and production facilities in Europe and Latin America, Scania is one of the most profitable companies in its sector. In 1999, turnover totalled SEK 47,100 million and the result after net interest income/expense was SEK 4,500 million. Scania products are marketed in about 100 countries worldwide and some 95 percent of Scania's vehicles are sold outside Sweden. Bus manufacture takes place in Sweden, Brazil, Denmark, Poland and Mexico.

Scania press releases are available on the Internet, www.scania.com